

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 062953

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DRAFTED BY: EB:NLPAZDRAL

APPROVED BY: EB:JULIUS L KATZ, ACTG

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 062953

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS

FOL REPEAT OF NEW DELHI 3808 TO SECSTATE INFO BOMBAN CALCUTTA MADRAS
MAR 19

QTE:

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 3808

BOMBAY PASS AMBASSADOR SAXBE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, IN

SUBJECT: PL 480 NEGOTIATIONS WITH INDIA

REF: STATE 61128

1. CONGRATULATIONS ON SETTLING THIS LENGTHY NEGOTIATION.
AS REQUESTED BAIJAL INFORMED. PER USUAL, HE KNEW NOTHING
OF WASHINGTON AGREEMENT BUT WAS DELIGHTED.

2. WHILE WE HAVE NOT YET HAD OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THIS
WITH BAIJAL, OUR INITIAL THINKING IS THAT, IN VIEW OF PRESENT
BILATER RELATIONS, DEPARTMENT SHOULD HANDLE PQBLIC AFFAIRS
ASPECT OF THIS AGREEMENT IN EXACTLY SAME MANNER IT WOULD WITH
ANY OTHER TITLE I AGREEMENT. WE ASSUME THAT PRESS RELEASE
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ANNOUNCING SUBSTANCE OF AGREEMENT IS NORMALLY ISSUED IN WASH-

INGTON. PRESUMABLY THERE WOULD BE NO NEED TO MAKE REFERENCE TO EARLIER PROGRAMS IN INDIA, COURSE OF NEGOTIATIONS OR CURRENT STATUS OF OVERALL INDO-US RELATIONS.

3. WE WOULD HOPE THAT DEPARTMENT WOULD INCLUDE REFERENCE TO THE CURRENT TITLE II PROGRAM WHICH WE UNDERSTAND WILL AMOUNT TO APPROXIMATELY 283 THOUSAND TONS OF FOODSTUFFS (96.5 MILLION) IN FY 75. WE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT NO ATTEMPT BE MADE TO LINK TITLE I AND TITLE II (I.E. 800,000 TON TITLE I PROGRAM IS LARGE ENOUGH TO STAND ON ITS OWN) BUT WE THINK IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO KEEP OUR TITLE II PROGRAM IN PUBLIC VIEW.

4. WE WOULD EXPECT THAT THERE WOULD BE A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS, BOTH HERE AND IN WASHINGTON, SUCH AS, WHY NEGOTIATIONS TOOK SO LONG, POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF AGREEMENT, DID INDIA ASK FOR THE FOOD, ETC. WE RECOMMEND THAT ANSWERS BE AS BRIEF AS POSSIBLE AND BASICALLY LIMITED TO STATEMENT THAT TITLE I RESUMPTION REFLECTS BOTH COUNTRIES WISHES AND NO POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS NEED BE READ INTO THIS AGREEMENT.

5. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING TEXT OF PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT WHEN IT IS READY AS WELL AS AGREEMENT AND MINUTES. WE WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING WHETHER 800,000 TONS FIGURE WOULD BE INCREASED IF PRICE OF WHEAT DROPPED BEFORE ALL PURCHASES MADE OR IF TONNAGE FIGURE REPRESENTS ABSOLUTE CEILING.
SAXBE
UNQTE INGERSOLL

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